



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
PUBLIC UTILITIES



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Wednesday, July 25, 2012

MEDIA CONTACT:
Eric Symons
Supervising Public Information Officer
(858) 614-5795
ESymons@sandiego.gov

San Diegans Urged to Get Smart (Irrigation That Is) *City Cash-Back Rebates Available for Water-Wise Devices*

SAN DIEGO- Summer is hot and lawns and landscapes get thirsty. But there are a number of “smart” ways to quench that thirst. Installations of a smart irrigation controller or a micro-irrigation system are excellent options to help residents save water and money.

It’s not too late to celebrate the fact that July is Smart Irrigation Month and summer is in full swing, and the City of San Diego provides just the program to help eligible residents “waste no water” and get lucrative cash-back rebates in the process. The year-round Residential Outdoor Water Conservation Rebate Program offers cash incentives for the installation of water-wise devices.

Customers of the City of San Diego Public Utilities Department residing in a single-family home, duplex, townhome, or condominium that is served by an individual water meter can participate. They can receive up to a \$400 rebate for a smart controller, which automatically adjusts irrigation times depending on the season and weather. To qualify, a customer needs to replace an existing operable non-weather based irrigation controller. The water savings can be dramatic. A smart controller can reduce overwatering by an estimated 40 gallons per day or 13,500 gallons annually.

A residential customer can also get a rebate up to \$480 for a micro-irrigation system. The City program offers a rebate of 20 cents for every square foot converted to this system, which delivers less water and is more efficient than conventional sprinklers. To be eligible for this water-wise effort, the customer needs to convert at least 200 square feet to a micro-sprinkler system. The amount of water saved can be as much as nine gallons per square foot annually.

Smart devices are practical for a number of reasons. As much as 50 percent of the water consumed by households is used to maintain landscapes and lawns. With such devices, customers help to “waste no water” and save money too. For more information about the City’s rebate programs, visit **wastenowater.org** and click on the blue “services and rebates” banner.

The City of San Diego Public Utilities Department’s Water Conservation Program reduces water demand through promoting or providing incentives for the installation of hardware that provides permanent water savings, and by providing services and information to help San Diegans make better decisions about water use. For more information about Water Conservation, visit www.wastenowater.org or call (619) 515-3500.

#